



# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

The Academy for Teaching and Learning Charter  
 Chester  
 Grades: K-8 Enrollment: 292  
 Principal: Robyn Welborn and Mary Ann McKeown  
 Superintendent: Mr. Larry B. Heath  
 Board Chair: Dr. Richard Hughes

## PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://www.eoc.sc.gov) as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Average	Below Average	TBD	TBD	Met	N/A
2008	At-Risk	Good	Silver	Silver	Not Met	N/A
2007	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

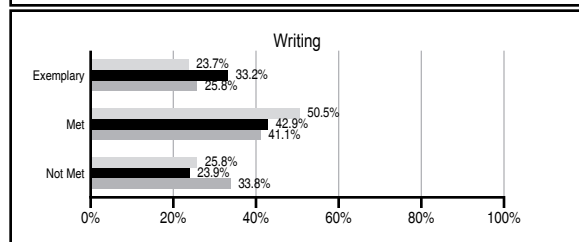
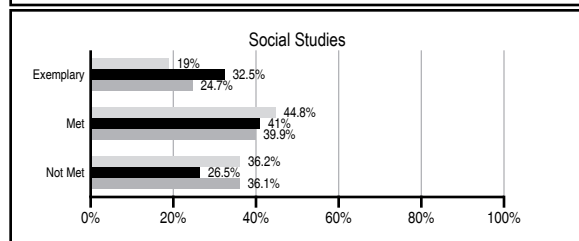
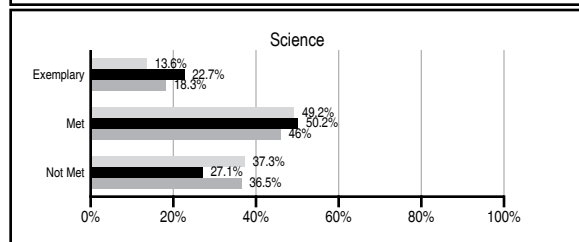
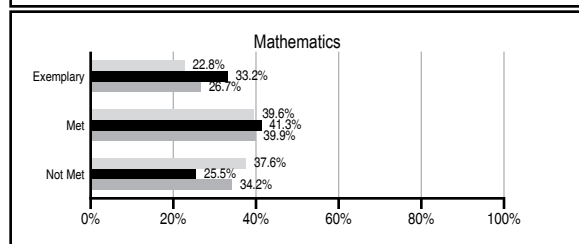
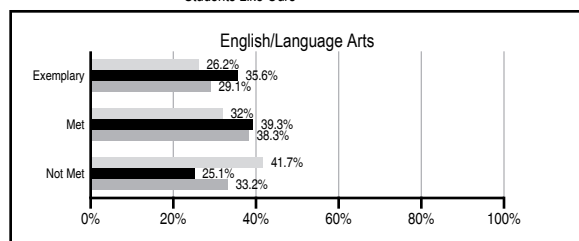
## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
2	12	23	0	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

## PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



## NAEP PERFORMANCE\*

\* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

### READING – GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	31	44	23	2
Nation	27	43	27	2
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

### MATH – GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	29	39	24	7
Nation	30	39	24	7
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

### SCIENCE – GRADE 8 (2005)

South Carolina	46	31	21	2
Nation	43	30	24	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

## END OF COURSE TESTS - 2009

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0	98.4
English 1	100.0	94.7
Physical Science	N/A	66.7
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	100.0	98.0

## SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

### 2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

### 2020 Vision:

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

### Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined  
 NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

# The Academy for Teaching and Learning Charter

## SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n=292)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	18.6%	Up from 7.5%	22.6%	21.6%
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 1.8%	1.0%	1.2%
Attendance rate	96.1%	Up from 95.0%	96.1%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	10.9%	Up from 10.6%	19.5%	14.8%
With disabilities other than speech	11.3%	Down from 11.6%	11.3%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	1.9%	Down from 2.0%	1.6%	2.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.4%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=19)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	63.2%	Down from 63.6%	60.0%	56.9%
Continuing contract teachers	78.9%	Up from 77.3%	76.5%	72.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	6.3%	Up from 0.0%	4.5%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	85.6%	82.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.8%	Up from 93.1%	95.3%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$44,110	Down 6.2%	\$47,028	\$46,599
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	21.8%	Up from 0.8%	0.6%	2.4%
Professional development days/teacher	8.8 days	Down from 9.1 days	10.6 days	10.8 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.0 to 1	No Change	21.7 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.3%	Up from 85.9%	90.1%	89.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Poor	Down from Good	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	99.3%	97.8%
Character development program	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,725	Up 10.1%	\$6,851	\$7,645
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	57.9%	Down from 59.4%	64.1%	63.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	49.8%	Down from 52.7%	57.1%	57.0%
% of AYP objectives met	100.0%	Up from 76.5%	91.3%	90.5%

\* Length of contract = 185+ days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data available.

## EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	22	32	33
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	96.9%	87.9%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	96.9%	93.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	100.0%	84.4%

\*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://www.eoc.sc.gov) as well as school and school district websites.

Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The faculty, parents, students, and community members have worked diligently to establish a learning environment that promotes optimal learning. The Academy for Teaching and Learning (ATL) has developed a school mission that values each child and faculty member as an individual and strives to provide support and encouragement that ensures that all members of the school family reach academic and social success. ATL's goals to focus heavily on professional development and reflection on student progress will ensure that all students reach academic and social excellence.

The Academy implemented a systematic approach in gathering student data from various sources (PACT, MAP, formal and informal assessments, and interest inventories) to determine academic remediation and acceleration opportunities. Staff members used the results from the data to reflect on their teaching practices and search for various strategies to reach all learners. Students were provided an additional hour of instruction each day during the school's extended day program. PACT and MAP data showed a positive impact on student achievement.

The Academy has established a strong sense of community for all the students who attend the school. Middle school students are given the opportunity work with younger students in the school's mentoring program. Weekly gatherings are held on Fridays that showcase students' learning and recognize Students of the Week, Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, and Good Citizens Awards. The school continued to involve every student in service learning projects that help the community. ATL focused on community hunger with several food drives to stock the local food pantry. The school participated in Relay for Life and raised funds to fight cancer. The school continued to implement the components of the Heartwood Character Education curriculum with students.

Students are given a variety of extra-curricular activities during the school's extended day program and during regular school hours. Students have the opportunity to participate in 4-H activities, Junior Achievement, Student Council, YMCA swimming lessons, band, steel drums, chorus, cheerleading, and dance. Each nine weeks, students are given a survey to determine opportunities for enrichment.

Parent involvement continues to drive the school's mission and support faculty and students. Parents are an active component of the success of the school. Parents serve as board members to govern the school and participate on committees that promote student success.

In the future, the Academy for Teaching and Learning will continue to make data driven decisions that identify areas of weakness and focus on professional development to establish "best practices" in teaching. This will give every student at the Academy an opportunity to reach their full potential.

Robyn Welborn  
Mary Ann McKeown  
Directors

### Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status